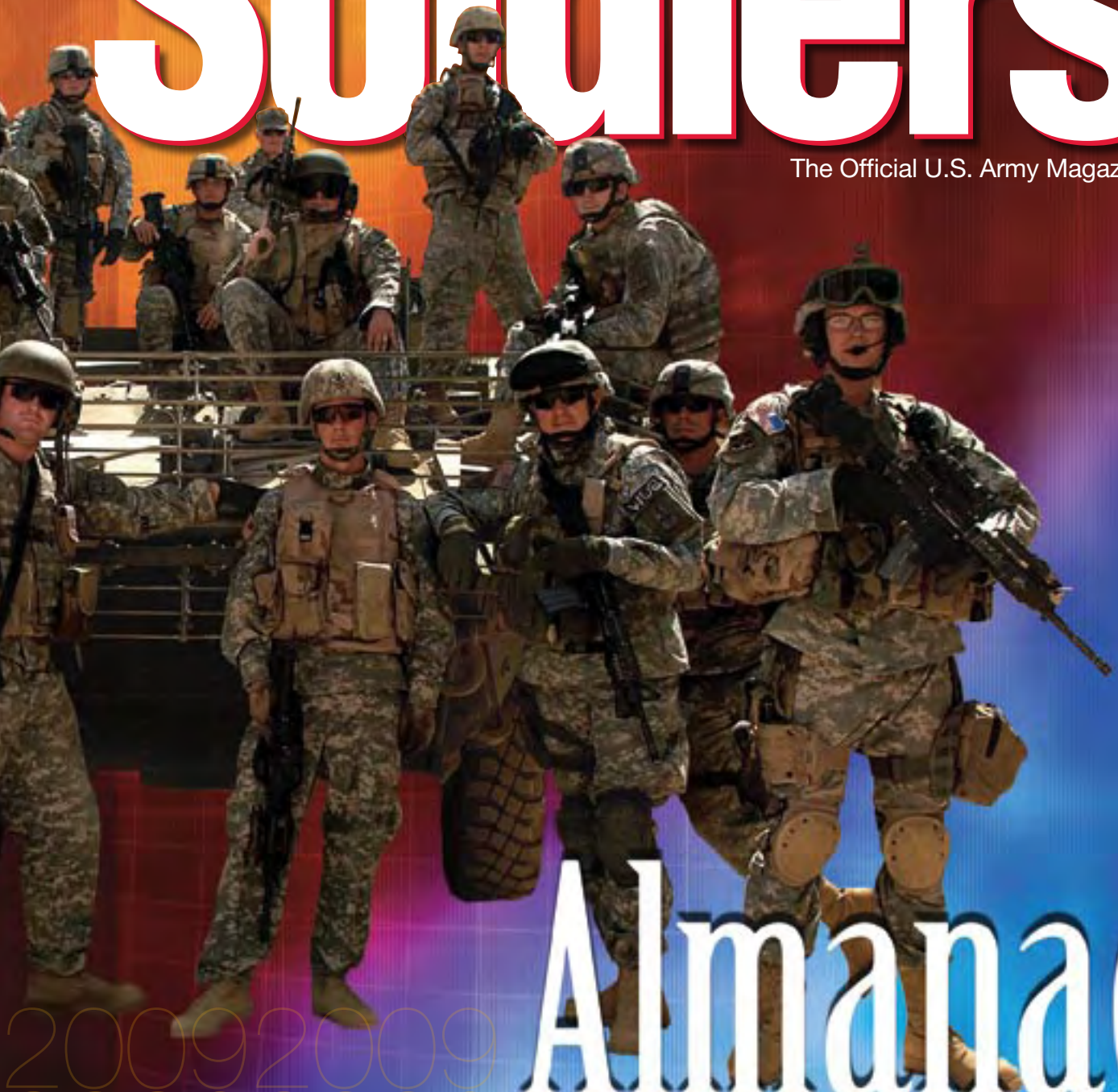


January 2009 • www.army.mil

Soldiers

The Official U.S. Army Magazine



Almanac 2009

20092009
20092009
20092009
2009200920092009
2009200920092009



Soldiers

JANUARY 2009 • VOLUME 64, NO. 1



Army recruits complete an obstacle at Victory Tower during basic combat training at Fort Jackson, S.C., Jan. 16, 2008.
(Photo by Senior Airman Micky M. Bazaldua)



[On the Cover]

Soldiers magazine Almanac
2009.

[Coming Next Month]

February 2009 - Sports/Olympics

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Troops from a joint civil affairs team assemble for a pre-mission huddle at Camp Liberty, Iraq, Jan. 21, 2008, prior to going on an assessment mission at the Hateen industrial park in Baghdad.



SOLDIERS MEDIA CENTER



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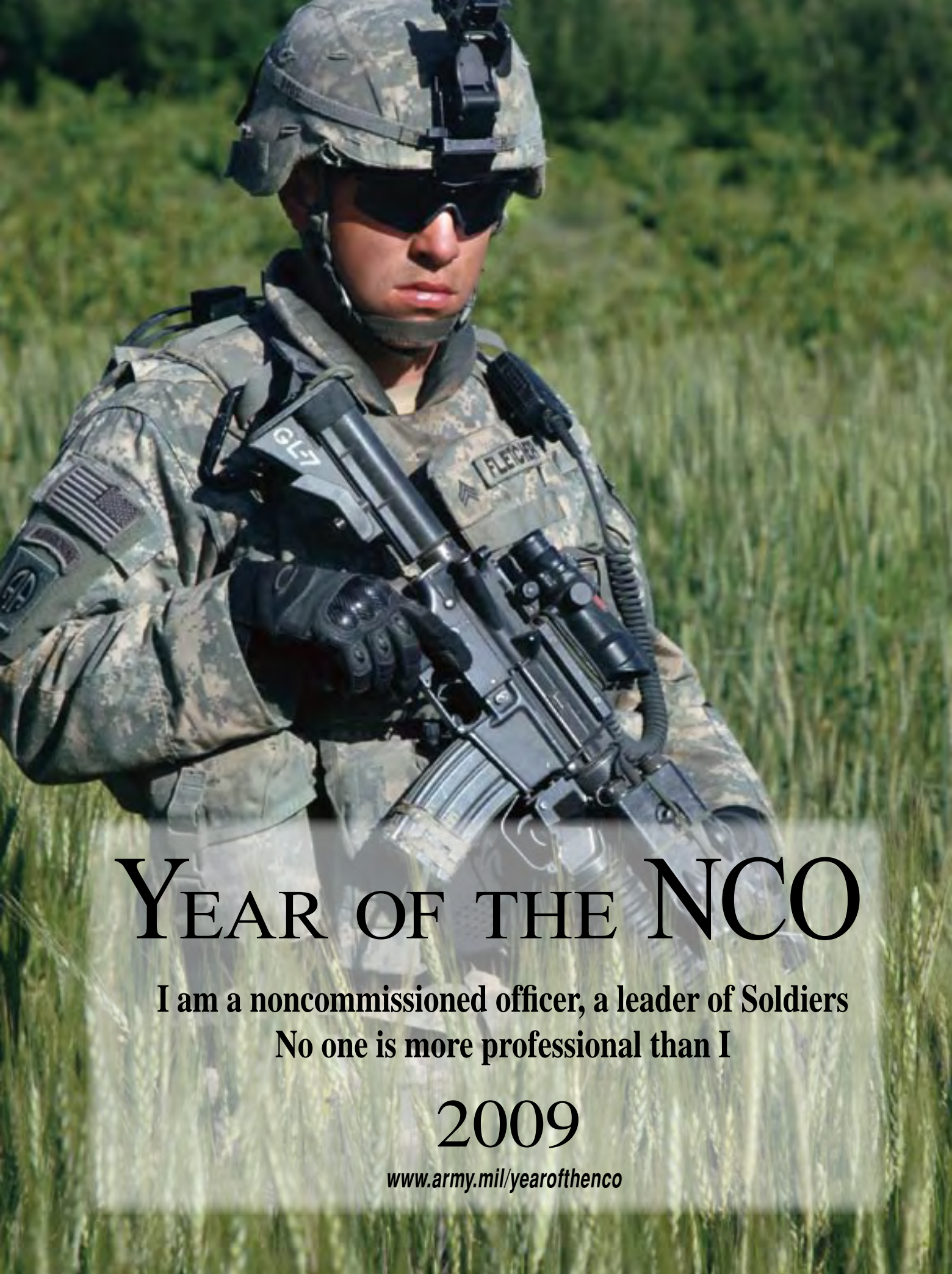
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2004



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YEAR OF THE NCO

I am a noncommissioned officer, a leader of Soldiers
No one is more professional than I

2009

www.army.mil/yearofthenco

Year in Review

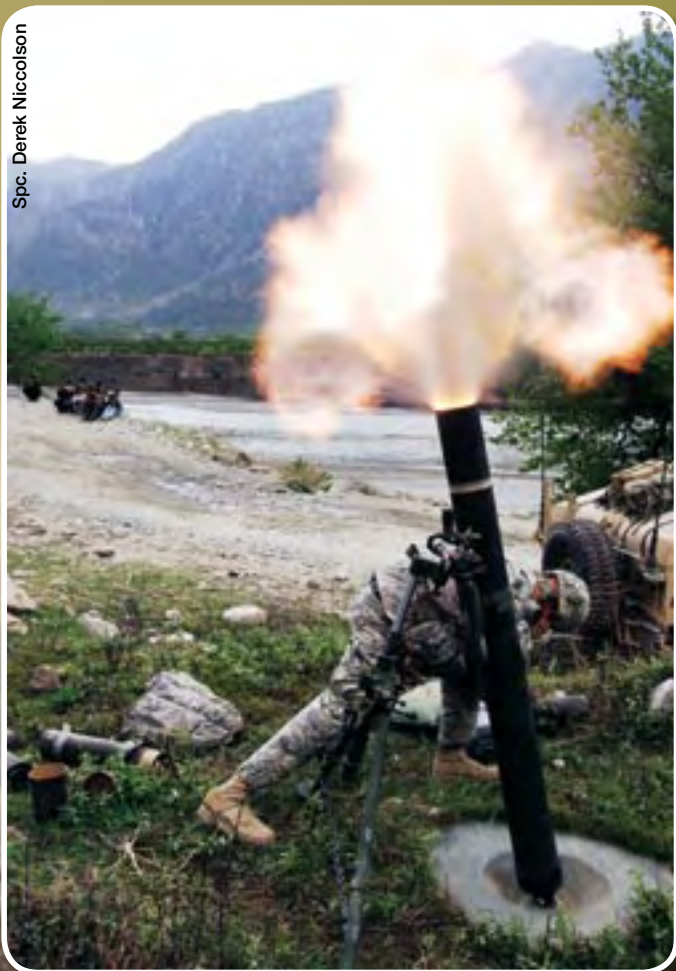
Afghanistan

Afghan National Army and coalition forces soldiers move west across a wadi back to Main Supply Route Vermont in the Tagab District, Kapisa Province, Afghanistan, Jan. 19, 2008, after a security patrol.



Soldiers assigned to a survey team from Task Force Castle prepare to move out on a mission in Afghanistan, July 11, 2008. The Soldiers surveyed a site for a new observation post. (Photo by 1st Lt. Tomas Rofkahr)

Spc. Derek Niccolson



Soldiers from Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 1st Battalion, 91st Cavalry Regiment, 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team fire 120-mm mortars during operations south of Forward Operating Base Naray, Afghanistan, March 26, 2008. The Soldiers are firing the mortars in hopes of flushing out anti-coalition militia suspected of attacking an Afghan supply truck.

Australian and American combat engineers rebuild the Mabey Johnson Bridge in Afghanistan.

Capt. James Reid



Year in Review

Events

Army divers from Fort Eustis, Va., begin diving operations for the former Soviet submarine Juliett 484 at the bottom of Providence River in Rhode Island, June 7, 2008. Navy and Army divers are participating in the joint service operation with federal, state and local authorities to raise the vessel, which sank in about 30 feet of water during a nor'easter that struck the area in April 2007. The exercise is part of the Department of Defense's Innovative Readiness Training program, which trains military divers through real-world, community-based projects. (Photo by Petty Officer 1st Class Eric Lippmann)

Members of the 1st Infantry Division march in Chicago's Memorial Day parade, May 24, 2008.



Chris Gray-Garcia

The Army Color Guard presents the colors during the opening ceremony of the June 7, 2008 baseball game between the Washington Nationals and the San Francisco Giants at Nationals Park, Washington, D.C. The evening was billed as "Army Night."

C. Todd Lopez



Donna Miles



Staff Sgt. Chad Atkinson walks with his family in the fourth annual America Supports You Freedom Walk. Joining him are his wife, Sylvia, right; daughter Mackenzie, 9, far left; daughter Rylyia, 11, left; and 16-day-old daughter, Sophie.


Soldiers and Airmen from the Washington, D.C. National Guard unfurl an American flag in the outfield during pre-game ceremonies for the inaugural game at Nationals Park in Washington, D.C., March 30, 2008.

Staff Sgt. Jim Greenhill




Year in Review

Fitness



▲ Spc. Ryan C. Balintfy takes a break during his workout in the gym of Joint Security Station Hurriyah One, Iraq, Sept. 25, 2008. Balintfy is a member of the 502nd Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division.

Staff Sgt. Manuel J. Martinez



▲ Soldiers lift weights at the Multinational Division Baghdad and 4th Infantry Division gym on Camp Liberty, Iraq, May 21, 2008.

Spc. April Campbell

Adam Skoczylas



Tim Hipps



Participants in the annual Department of the Army Staff Run make their way through the western end of Arlington National Cemetery, June 12, 2008. In addition to the scenery, the purpose of the cemetery route was so participants could reflect on the sacrifices of the men and women of the U.S. armed forces.

Soldiers get an endurance and quadriceps workout using specialized equipment during a train-the-trainer clinic, June 11, 2008, at Fort Bragg, N.C. The Army Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Command purchased 3,205 of the exercise systems to be distributed through a pilot program at Fort Bragg and to be included in recreation kits headed to troops in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Soldiers rush the starting line as they begin a five-kilometer race on Camp Liberty, Iraq, Sept. 20, 2008. The race was in memory of Lt. Gen. Timothy J. Maude who was killed in the attack on the Pentagon, Sept. 11, 2001.

Sgt. Whitney Houston



Year in Review

Humanitarianism



Sgt. Jennifer D. Atkinson

▲ Texas National Guard Pvt. Mark Rivera of Company A, 72nd Infantry Brigade, and Pvt. 1st Class Joseph Davora, Co. A, 1-41 Infantry Regiment, carry a woman stranded by flood waters to a waiting truck, where Pvt. John Paul Borrego and Pfc. Christopher Culbeller, both from the 72nd Infantry Brigade, stand by to help.

▲ Army working dog, Karlo.



Sgt. 1st Class Jamie Neely (center), a scout platoon sergeant for 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, reenlists while standing in the Euphrates River in central Iraq, Feb. 25, 2008.

Soldiers assigned to the Iowa Army National Guard construct a 7-foot levee to protect an electrical generator from rising floodwaters in Hills, Iowa, June 14, 2008. Iowa National Guard Airmen and Soldiers were activated to work with state and local agencies to provide security and help with recovery in flooded areas.

Air Force Staff Sgt. Oscar M. Sanchez-Alvarez

& Human Interest



J. B. Jaso

1st Lt. John Busuego photographs children in Baghdad's Adhamiyah security district, Aug. 19, 2008. Busuego is the economics-development coordinator for 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, Multi-National Division-Baghdad.



Sgt. Nathaniel P. Orphey

Louisiana Army National Guard Staff Sgt. Halbert J. Hardy Jr. helps evacuate residents of Lake Charles, La., when Hurricane Ike flooded parts of the area.

Year in Review In Iraq



1st Lt. Meg Harvey



Staff Sgt. Guillermo Allen

(Top left) An Iraqi boy smiles behind Sgt. 1st Class Brian Snyder, platoon sergeant of Charlie Troop, 4th Battalion, 10th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, in Amiriyyah, April 4, 2008. Soldiers were in the area to seek information from family members of detainees and to assess security checkpoints.

Pfc. Silas Giberti (left), Sgt. Nicolas LeMay and Sgt. Aaron Walters recite the oath of enlistment given by 1st Lt. Jacob Sweatland, who conducted the reenlistment, Aug. 16, 2008. Multi-National Division – Baghdad Soldiers from the 2nd Squadron, 14th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, recently received the flag from Hell's Kitchen firehouse, which was home to Engine 34 and Ladder 21 in New York. The flag flew outside the fire station, Sept. 11, 2001. On that day, 34 firefighters from the station lost their lives in the rescue efforts at the World Trade Center.



Air Force Staff Sgt. Jason T. Bailey

(Above and right) Soldiers assigned to 3rd Squadron, 89th Cavalry Regiment, Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 4th Brigade, 10th Mountain Division, patrol Baghdad, March 27, 2008.



Air Force Staff Sgt. Jason T. Bailey

Year in Review

Sports

February 5, 2008 ▶

All-Navy goalkeeper Petty Officer 3rd Class Jacob Alford makes a save between Capt. Mark Hillen (left) of Hunter Army Airfield, Ga., and Sgt. Richard Pina of Fort Stewart, Ga., during the Sailors' 1-0 victory over All-Army in the final match of the men's 2008 Armed Forces Soccer Championship Tournament at Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, N.C.



Tim Hipps

July 26, 2008

Sergeant 1st Class Elisa Tennyson picks up a silver in the women's style discipline for the 30th Federation Aeronautique Internationale World Style and Accuracy Parachuting Championships in Slovakia.



Staff Sgt. Joe Abeln

February 2008 ▶

A referee keeps a close watch on a fight as Sgt. Dustin Sanders (top) and Pfc. Carl Miller (bottom) battle it out during a combatives tournament at Fort Bragg, N.C.



August 16, 2008 ►

U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit shotgun shooter Pfc. Vincent Hancock, 19, of Eatonton, Ga., sets two Olympic records and prevails in a four-shot shoot-off with Norway's Tore Brovold to win the men's skeet competition at the Olympic Games.



April 2008 ▼

Dale Earnhardt Jr., driving the No. 88 National Guard Chevy, and Mark Martin, in the No. 8 Army car, battle for position on the front stretch of Texas Motor Speedway. Martin's Army team fought hard all day and finished in eighth place, including picking up two spots on the final lap. Earnhardt started the race on the pole and led the 43-car field for 31 laps, but fell back due to handling issues, crossing the finish line a lap down in 12th place.



Year in Review

A diverse

Senior Airman Jacqueline Kabuyen



▲ Sgt. Gwendolyn Jackson-Edwards, a medic assigned to 354th Civil Affairs Brigade Special Functioning Team, treats a five-month-old baby during a medical-civil action project in Dammerjog, Djibouti, April 3, 2008. Servicemembers assigned to Combined Joint Task Force - Horn of Africa provided medical care to over 500 people in the area during the two-day event.

Air Force Tech. Sgt. John Asselin



Spc. Angelica Golindano



Sgt. Daniel Blottenberger



Army



Staff Sgt. Margaret C. Nelson



Ed Mingin

Fort Dix Post Command Sgt. Maj. Bonita Davis shares kid-level information on being part of Army families during an Army Birthday celebration at Fort Dix, N.J., June 12, 2008.

Sgt. 1st Class Darrell Webster, assigned to 2nd Platoon, Bravo Battery, 5th Battalion, 25th Field Artillery Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, provides security outside the Al-Alwya power station in Karadah, Iraq, March 19, 2008. (Photo by Air Force Staff Sgt. Jason T. Bailey)



Air Force Staff Sgt. Jason T. Bailey

Year in Review

Wounded Warriors

Elaine Wilson



◀ Cpl. Terry Lingman uses a hand cycle to complete the 10-mile bike ride portion of a triathlon, May 2008. Operation Comfort and the City of San Antonio Parks and Recreation in Texas donated the hand cycles for the wounded warriors to use during the event .

◀ Spc. Justin Clark (seated), who is currently undergoing therapy at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, leads riders on the Road 2 Recovery 480-mile bike trek in May 2008.



Molly Hayden



Sgt. Liliina Benning (left), gets a surf lesson from Suzy Stewart at Kailua Beach on the island of Oahu, Hawaii. Community supporters helped spread some aloha to a group of 26 wounded warriors and family members by providing resources for many outdoor activities, May 6-16. Afterwards, the wounded warriors, most of whom are amputees, returned to Brooke Army Medical Center, Fort Sam Houston, to continue recuperating.

Master Sgt. Dan Robles completes a 500-meter swim at Fort Sam Houston's outdoor pool. Robles was one of several participants in a triathlon for wounded warriors, May 23, sponsored by the Center for the Intrepid in Texas. The triathlon comprised a 2-mile run, 500-meter swim and 10-mile bike ride. The CFI is a state-of-the-art physical rehabilitation center located next to Brooke Army Medical Center.

Elaine Wilson



Elaine Wilson



1st Sgt. Christopher Self crosses the finish line of the 2-mile-run segment of a triathlon for wounded warriors, May 23, sponsored by the Center for the Intrepid at Fort Sam Houston, Texas. Self finished the triathlon in one hour, three minutes and 12 seconds.

Kirk Simendinger, prosthetist from the Center for the Intrepid at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, assists Spc. Mark Roseberry with his prosthesis so he can start the 10-mile bike ride during a triathlon in May.

Elaine Wilson



Year in Review

Training

Senior Airman Robert Barney



Soldiers from Alpha Battery, 118th Field Artillery, 48th Brigade Combat Team, Georgia Army National Guard participate in infantry squad battle course training on Fort McCoy, Wis., July 17, 2008, during Patriot 2008. Patriot is a joint, multinational exercise involving National Guard, Reserve and active components of the Air Force and Army, as well as Canadian, British and Dutch forces.



Soldiers of the 305th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division parachute out of an Air Force C-130 Hercules aircraft during a joint forcible entry exercise on Fort Bragg, N.C., June 17, 2008. JFEX is a joint airdrop designed to enhance service cohesiveness between Army and Air Force personnel by training both services on how to execute large-scale heavy equipment and troop movement. (Photo by Airman 1st Class Daniel Owen)



Spc. Daniel Farrier, MEDCOM Soldier of the Year, rescues a mannequin from a damaged vehicle during the combat scenario portion of the competition, June 17, 2008. (Photo by Jerry Harben)



Drill Sgt. Primus Brown instructs Soldiers from Company B, 3rd Battalion, 30th Infantry as they learn to high crawl through a sand pit as part of an obstacle course on Fort Benning's Sand Hill, Oct. 17, 2008. (Photo by David Dismukes)



Soldiers from 25th Infantry Division perform a low crawl as part of their training at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, Feb. 4, 2008. (Photo by Spc. David House)



A Soldier competes in the "Best Warrior" competition night-fire exercise at Fort Lee, Va., on Oct. 2, 2008. Twenty-four of the Army's finest warriors representing 12 commands from across the Army gathered at Fort Lee, from Sept. 29 to Oct. 3, to compete in the competition, which names the Army's Soldier and Noncommissioned Officer of the Year. (Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Tom Steber)

Year in Review

Technology



Spc. Raymond Poltera, tactical unmanned aerial vehicle operator, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, Multi-National Division-Baghdad, launches an RQ-7B Shadow 200 TUAV from a pneumatic launcher at the aircraft's primary launch and recovery site on Camp Taji, Aug. 11, 2008. The Shadow provides commanders on the ground the ability to see the entire battlefield.



An aircrew from the Louisiana National Guard uses the AVCAT (Aviation Combined Arms Tactical Trainer) during mobility training at Fort Sill, Okla. The simulator also affords the air crews the opportunity to perform many tasks that would otherwise be costly. They can work on their communications checks, unit standard operating procedures and flight operations.

Hiro Chang

Insignia of the United States Armed Forces — ENLISTED

E-1	E-2	E-3	E-4	E-5	E-6	E-7	E-8	E-9	Senior Enlisted Advisors
ARMY									
no insignia									
Private E-1 (PV1)	Private E-2 (PV2)	Private First Class (PFC)	Corporal (CPL) Specialist (SPC)	Sergeant (SGT)	Staff Sergeant (SSG)	Sergeant First Class (SFC)	Master Sergeant (MSG)	First Sergeant (1SG)	Command Sergeant Major (CSM) Sergeant Major (SGM)
MARINES									
no insignia									
Private (Pvt)	Private First Class (PFC)	Lance Corporal (LCpl)	Corporal (Cpl)	Sergeant (Sgt)	Staff Sergeant (SSgt)	Gunnery Sergeant (GySgt)	Master Sergeant (MSgt)	First Sergeant (1stSgt)	Master Gunnery Sergeant (MGySgt) Sergeant Major (SgtMaj)
AIR FORCE									
no insignia									
Airman Basic (AB)	Airman (Amn)	Airman First Class (A1C)	Senior Airman (SrA)	Staff Sergeant (SSgt)	Technical Sergeant (TSgt)	Master Sergeant (MSgt)	First Sergeant (E-7)	Senior Master Sergeant (SMSgt)	Chief Master Sergeant (CMSgt) First Sergeant (E-9) Command Chief Master Sergeant (CCM Sgt)
NAVY									
no insignia									
Seaman Recruit (SR)	Seaman Apprentice (SA)	Seaman (SN)	Petty Officer Third Class (PO3)	Petty Officer Second Class (PO2)	Petty Officer First Class (PO1)	Chief Petty Officer (CPO)	Senior Chief Petty Officer (SCPO)	Master Chief Petty Officer (MCPON)	Force or Fleet Command Master Chief Petty Officer (FORMC) (FLTMC)
COAST GUARD									
Seaman Recruit (SR)	Seaman Apprentice (SA)	Seaman (SN)	Petty Officer Third Class (PO3)	Petty Officer Second Class (PO2)	Petty Officer First Class (PO1)	Chief Petty Officer (CPO)	Senior Chief Petty Officer (SCPO)	Master Chief Petty Officer (MCPON)	Command Master Chief (CMC)





Iraq

Spc. Erik Heath, a member of Company D, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment, hooks up a tow-bar to the rear wheel of a Black Hawk at the Combat Aviation Brigade flightline, Baghdad.

— Photo by Pfc. Monica K. Smith

Insignia of the United States Armed Forces — OFFICERS

0-1	0-2	0-3	0-4	0-5	0-6	0-7	0-8	0-9	0-10	Special
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ARMY • AIR FORCE • MARINES

Second Lieutenant (2LT)	First Lieutenant (1LT)	Captain (CPT)	Major (MAJ)	Lieutenant Colonel (LTC)	Colonel (COL)	Brigadier General (BG)	Major General (MG)	Lieutenant General (LTG)	General (GEN)	General of the Army (GA)

NAVY • COAST GUARD

Ensign (ENS)	Lieutenant Junior Grade (LTJG)	Lieutenant (LT)	Lieutenant Commander (LCDR)	Commander (CDR)	Captain (CAPT)	Rear Admiral Lower Half (RADM)(L)	Rear Admiral Upper Half (RADM)(U)	Vice Admiral (VADM)	Admiral (ADM)	Fleet Admiral (FADM)

W-1	W-2	W-3	W-4	W-5
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ARMY

Warrant Officer (WO1)	Chief Warrant Officer (CW2)	Chief Warrant Officer (CW3)	Chief Warrant Officer (CW4)	Chief Warrant Officer (CW5)

NAVY • COAST GUARD

Chief Warrant Officer (CW01)	Chief Warrant Officer (CW02)	Chief Warrant Officer (CW03)	Chief Warrant Officer (CW04)	Chief Warrant Officer (CW05)
NO WARRANT OFFICER USCG	USCG	USCG	USCG	NO WARRANT OFFICER USCG

MARINES

Warrant Officer (WO)	Chief Warrant Officer (CW02)	Chief Warrant Officer (CW03)	Chief Warrant Officer (CW04)	Chief Warrant Officer (CW05)

AIR FORCE

NO WARRANT	NO WARRANT	NO WARRANT	NO WARRANT	NO WARRANT
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"OF SOLDIERS, BY SOLDIERS" PHOTO CONTEST




**Send us your best photo and it could be on
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- Must be taken OF a Soldier and BY a Soldier
- Submission deadline: April 21, 2009
- Only one photo submission per Soldier
- Photograph must be high resolution (Three megapixels or greater in size)
- Need photographers' full contact information, including unit address, supervisor's telephone number and personal telephone

- Images should be composed vertically, and action should be directed to the right
- A detailed caption must accompany the photo; full names; ranks and units of Soldiers in the photo (if children are depicted, no names required); and nomenclature of any vehicles or equipment pictured

Email your photos (and any questions) to: carrie.mcleroy@us.army.mil

An adult Emperor penguin stands in a snowy landscape, looking towards the right. A small, fluffy chick is visible at its feet. The background is a soft-focus view of a snowy field.

Would you be ready to shelter-in-place?

For some emergencies, the safest course of action is to stay where you are and shelter-in-place.

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- Be familiar with the emergency notification system and listen to the radio or TV for instructions.

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Army Today



On The Green Beat



Engineer Update

Weapons systems



SAW

The M-249 Squad Automatic Weapon can be carried and fired by one Soldier or mounted on a vehicle. It weighs 16.5 pounds and fires 5.56 mm rounds at a rate of up to 750 per minute, effective to 800 meters.



M-4 carbine

The M-4, a compact version of the M-16A2 rifle, enables Soldiers to shoot effectively in close quarters, as well as up to 500 meters. The carbine uses 5.56 mm ammunition and weighs 7.5 pounds with sling and loaded magazine.



M-16 rifle

The M-16 fires 5.56 mm, NATO-compatible ammunition in single- or three-round bursts. It weighs 8.8 pounds with sling and loaded magazine and has an effective range of 800 meters. The M-16 can be fitted with a bayonet and a grenade launcher.



M-240

The M-240 is a belt-fed, crew-served machine gun. It weighs 27.6 pounds and fires 7.62 mm ammunition at an effective range of 1,800 meters at 200-600 rounds per minute. It can be mounted on the ground, helicopters and vehicles and delivers more energy to targets than the lighter M-249 SAW.

MK-19

The crew-served MK-19 grenade machine gun is used against enemy combatants and lightly armored vehicles. It can be fired from a tripod on the ground or mounted on a variety of vehicles. It weighs 72.5 pounds and fires belt-fed 40 mm grenades to an effective range of 2,200 meters at 60 rounds per minute.



M-9 pistol

The M-9 is semi-automatic and uses 9 mm ammunition in a 15-round magazine. Maximum effective range is 50 meters and weight is 2.6 pounds, fully loaded.

Disclaimer: Upgrades, variations or modifications of Army weapons depicted on these pages may exist. For a more comprehensive description, visit: <http://www.army.mil/factfiles>.

Weapons systems



TOW

The TOW (tube-launched, optically-tracked, wire command-link guided) missile system is fired by a crew of two from the ground or vehicles. This anti-tank, fortification-breaching weapon uses a variety of missiles, guided by a gunner, who must keep the sights on the target. Launcher weight with TOW is about 200 pounds and maximum range is 3,750 meters.



Mortar

The mortar is a crew-served weapon used for close-in support of ground troops. Mortars use high-explosive, illumination phosphorous, or smoke rounds from the ground or vehicles. Ranges are 7,240 meters for the 120 mm, 5,600 meters for the 81 mm and 3,489 for the 60 mm mortar.



M-2

The M-2 is a crew-served, machine gun, weighing 84 pounds. It fires .50-caliber rounds at a rate of 550 per minute up to 4.2 miles and can be fired from the ground or vehicles.



Javelin

Javelin is a fire-and-forget, shoulder-fired, anti-tank missile system with an effective range of 2,500 meters. It is also used to breach fortifications, engage helicopters and can be fired from a variety of vehicles.



Howitzer

The M-102 and M-119 105 mm towed howitzers provide support fires to light, airborne and air assault forces. The M-198 155 mm towed howitzer provides support fires to Stryker brigade combat teams and light and special-purpose forces. Howitzer rounds include high explosive, smoke, scatterable mines and illumination.



Patriot

The Patriot (Phased Array Tracking Intercept of Target) missile system is used for air defense against missiles and aircraft.



MLRS

The M-270 MLRS (Multiple Launch Rocket System) is an anti-armor system that fires extended-range rockets and Army Tactical Missile System missiles. The launcher can travel up to 300 miles.

Weapons systems



Hercules

The M-88 Hercules (Heavy Equipment Recovery Combat Utility Lift and Evacuation System) is a tracked, armored vehicle providing recovery support for the Abrams tank, heavy Assault Bridge and heavy self-propelled artillery. It has a range of 280 miles, a speed of 25 mph and carries a crew of three.



Stinger

The FIM-92 Stinger, shown here in the "Avenger" configuration, is a short-range, air-defense missile weighing 35 pounds, with a range of about 15,000 feet. The weapon can be shoulder-fired or mounted on vehicles and helicopters.



APC

Several types of armored personnel carriers transport troops, mortars, missiles and a variety of equipment across most terrain.



Bradley

The Bradley Fighting Vehicle (also known as the Infantry or Cavalry Fighting Vehicle) carries an infantry squad and provides fire support to dismounted infantry. It also is employed against enemy fighters, tanks, vehicles, bunkers and helicopters. The Bradley operates at a speed of 41 mph for 250 miles. Armament includes 25 mm cannon, TOW missiles and the M-240 machine gun.

Abrams tank

The M-1 Abrams tank is used to attack heavy armor forces. It is equipped with a 120 mm main gun, travels 45 mph and carries a crew of four.



Paladin

The M-109 Paladin is a self-propelled howitzer that can fire four rounds per minute up to 22,000 meters or 30,000 meters assisted. A crew of four is required.

Weapons systems



Stryker

Stryker vehicles provide fire support, bunker- and wall-breaching capability, troop transport, reconnaissance and medical evacuation. It can travel 60 mph and has a range of 300 miles.



HEMTT

Several types of HEMTT (Heavy Equipment Mobility Tactical Truck) are used to carry cargo and fuel or tow vehicles, trailers and howitzers. Range is 300 miles.



MRAP

The MRAP (Mine Resistant Ambush Protected) vehicle is designed to carry troops and increase survivability of land mine explosions and improvised explosive device attacks.



Humvee

The Humvee (High-Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle) is a light vehicle used to carry Soldiers and up to 4,400 pounds of cargo and weapons (including TOW missiles). Humvees are also used as field ambulances. Maximum highway speed is 65 mph with a range of 350 miles.



Black Hawk

The UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter can airlift 11 fully-equipped Soldiers and a crew of three (pilot, co-pilot and crew chief). Its top speed is 190 knots, its range is 368 miles and it can carry two 7.62 mm machine guns.



Kiowa

The OH-58 Kiowa Warrior is an armed-reconnaissance helicopter. Armament includes HELLFIRE missiles, HYDRA 70 rockets, air-to-air Stinger missiles, and .50-caliber machine guns. The Kiowa carries a crew of two at a maximum speed of 120 knots and a range of 345 miles.



Chinook

The CH-47 Chinook helicopter can lift up to 26,000 pounds of weapons or supplies, 33 fully-equipped Soldiers, or 24 stretchers. It carries a crew of three (pilot, co-pilot and flight engineer). Armament includes machine guns. Maximum speed is 170 knots and range is 400 miles.



Apache

The AH-64 Apache is an attack helicopter with a crew of two (pilot and co-pilot), a range of 300 miles and a top speed of 197 knots. Its armaments are HELLFIRE missiles, 2.75-inch rockets and a 30 mm gun.

SOLDIERING

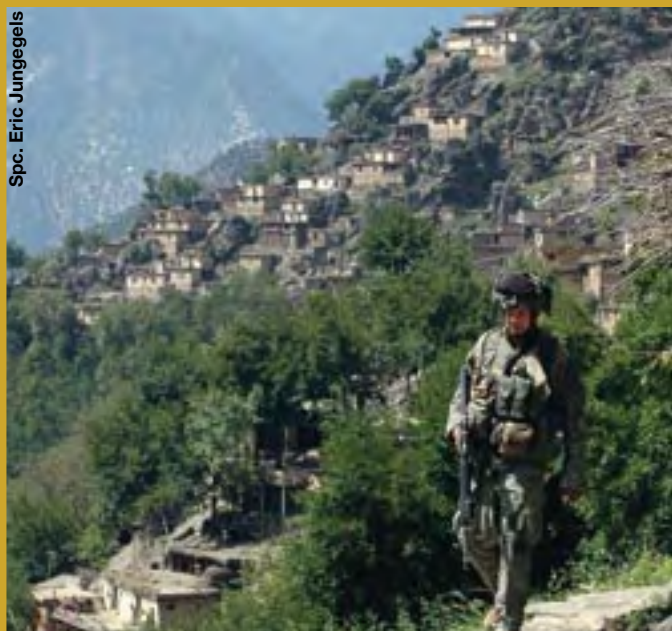
David Hodge



(Above) Staff Sgt. Nathan Camp, a squad leader with 3rd Platoon, Company C, 2nd Battalion, 4th Infantry Regiment, coaches an Iraqi policeman during room-clearance training, Aug. 14, 2008, in the Jaza'ir community of Baghdad.

(Right) Cpl. Michael Good, from Company B, 1st Battalion, 32nd Infantry Regiment, 10th Mountain Division, moves along a path overlooking the Afghan village of Aranas while on patrol in Nuristan Province.

Spc. Eric Junggeles





Minnesota National Guardsmen participate in cold-weather training with Norwegian forces at Camp Vearnes, Norway, Feb. 18, 2008. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Jason Rolfe)

SOLDIERING



Staff Sgt. James Gibson scans the terrain while his battle buddies keep a watchful eye from the water during training on Camp Atterbury, Ind., Sept. 20, 2008. The Soldiers are assigned to the 152nd Cavalry Reconnaissance and Surveillance Squadron. (Photo by Sgt. Sheila Holifield)

Spc. Rebecca Buck, a medic from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, provides perimeter security outside an Iraqi police station in Tarmiya Province, Iraq, March 30, 2008.

Air Force Tech. Sgt. William Greer



Staff Sgt. Jesse Linen, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, coaches an Iraqi soldier in Tal Afar.

Staff Sgt. Jacob Bailey



Soldiers from the 23rd Infantry maneuver through a water-treatment facility.

Phil Sussman



Interesting *historical* facts

Dec. 26, 1776



This scene of the Battle of Trenton on the morning of Dec. 26, 1776, depicts Continental Soldiers overrunning the Hessian artillery position following a short duel with American artillery. Lt. James Monroe, a future president of the United States, was badly wounded during this part of the battle. Firing from behind fences and inside buildings, the Continentals quickly forced the Hessian garrison to surrender. (From: *Soldiers of the American Revolution*, illustrated by H. Charles McBarron)

Continental Army uniforms

The buff and blue uniforms of the officers of the Continental Army were drawn from the uniform pattern of the Virginia militia.



U.S. troops stationed in Ireland, move "on the double" across a stream during training in Northern Ireland, circa World War II. (Photo by U.S. Army Signal Corps)

Medal of Honor

Of the 2,402 Medals of Honor awarded to Soldiers, only one was earned by an Army dentist. Capt. Ben L. Salomon, a dentist serving with the 105th Infantry Regiment, 27th Infantry Division, during the American effort to capture Saipan, was at a battalion aid station when it was attacked by an overwhelming force of Japanese infantry. Salomon killed several enemy soldiers attacking wounded GIs, then manned a machine gun to cover his comrades' withdrawal. When the Americans retook the area, Salomon was found dead, with 98 dead Japanese soldiers around his position.

"The Ballad of Rodger Young"

In July of 1943, wounded as his platoon was forced to withdraw, Pvt. Rodger Young, 148th Infantry, 37th Infantry Division, struck back at the enemy with hand grenades until he was cut down. His actions earned the Medal of Honor and inspired "The Ballad of Rodger Young," a popular "hit parade" song in World War II.

107

The age of the only living American veteran of World War I. Frank Buckles, of Charles Town, W.Va., age 107, was a motorcycle driver who spent much of the war delivering dispatches. He also served as an ambulance driver.

Exploring America

The Army was in charge of exploring and mapping much of America. For example, the Lewis and Clark Expedition was comprised of Army officers and noncommissioned officers. The Army conducted several other expeditions through the American West, as well as Alaska and the Arctic.

Feb. 11, 1984

The first Army astronaut entered space. Lt. Col. Robert L. Stewart was a crew member of the space shuttle Challenger. To date, more than a dozen Army astronauts have orbited the Earth on space shuttle missions.



"Dormitory C," Stenberg General Hospital, Camp Thomas, Chickamauga, Ga., circa 1898.

West Point uniform

The traditional West Point gray cadet uniform was patterned after uniforms worn during the War of 1812.

about the U.S. Army



Jan. 31, 1958

The first U.S. satellite, Explorer I, was launched into orbit aboard an Army Jupiter-C rocket.

First female general officer

Anna Mae Hayes, chief of the Army Nurse Corps, became the first female general officer in Army history when she was promoted to brigadier general on Jun. 11, 1970.



Women war correspondents working in the European theatre of operations pose for a photo in England, Feb. 1, 1943. (L-R): Mary Welch: Time and Life; Dixie Tighe: International; Kathleen Harriman: Newsweek; Helen Kirkpatrick: Chicago Daily News; Lee Miller: Vogue; Tania Long: N.Y. Times. (Photo by U.S. Army Signal Corps)

Sept. 17, 1908

First Lt. Thomas E. Selfridge became the Army's first aviation casualty when he crashed while flying with Orville Wright at Fort Myer, Va.

Celebrity Soldiers

A number of celebrities—actors, singers, musicians and sports figures—have served in the Army. They include: Elvis Presley, Art Carney, James Garner, Tony Bennett, Jimi Hendrix, John Fogerty, Charles Durning, Sammy Davis Jr., Clint Eastwood, Burt Lancaster, James Coburn, James Arness, Mel Brooks, Ossie Davis, Robert Duvall, Hal Holbrook, Kris Kristofferson, Richard Pryor, Tony Randall, Gene Wilder, Jackie Robinson, Monte Irvin, Rod Serling, Carl Reiner, Lou Groza, Warren Spahn and Dan Blocker.

General of the Armies

General John J. Pershing and President George Washington are the only two recipients of the six-star rank, or general of the armies. However, Pershing was the only one to actually hold the title, since Washington was posthumously appointed to the rank on Oct. 11, 1976 by an Act of Congress.

April 21, 1940

Captain Robert M. Losey, an Army Air Corps military attaché in Norway, was killed in a German air raid. He was the first American military casualty of World War II.



General of the Armies John J. Pershing's welcome to New York (left to right) Gov. Al Smith, Gen. Pershing and Mayor John F. Hylan. Pershing's efforts to build a modern Army remain with us today. (WWI Signal Corps Collection)

June 4, 1974

Second Lt. Sally W. Murphy graduated from Army flight school, becoming the Army's first female helicopter pilot.

Pfc. John Sizemore, from Company C, prepares to move off Hill 742 during a search and destroy mission in the highlands around Dak, South Vietnam, Nov. 14-17, 1967.





Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower gives the order of the day, "Full victory - nothing else," to paratroopers in England, just before they board their airplanes to participate in the first assault of the invasion of Europe.

National Guard birthday

On Dec. 13, 1636, the Massachusetts General Court directed the establishment of the first militia regiments in North America. This date is recognized as the birthday of the National Guard.

21

The number of Asian-American Soldiers from World War II who were awarded the Medal of Honor. On Jan. 21, 2000, President Bill Clinton presented the awards, which were the culmination of a four-year investigation by the Army to determine whether the Soldiers' bravery was not properly recognized because of anti-Japanese sentiment during the World War II era.



Brig. Gen. Kenneth S. Sweaney, commanding general, X U.S. Corps Artillery, pulls the lanyard May 18, 1952, to fire the 150,000th round of ammunition used by the men of Battery B, 955th Field Artillery Battalion, U.S. Eighth Army. (U.S. Army Signal Corps photo)

Sept. 11, 2001

A somber distinction

Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel, Lt. Gen. Timothy J. Maude, became the highest-ranking Soldier killed by enemy action since World War II, when he was fatally wounded during the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attack on the Pentagon.

General of the Army

Since the creation of the "General of the Army," or five-star rank in 1946, only five men have held the title, including Gens. George C. Marshall, Dwight D. Eisenhower, Douglas MacArthur, Henry H. Arnold and Omar Bradley.

First shoulder patch

The first shoulder sleeve insignia, or shoulder patch, is credited to the 81st Division during World War I. The 81st became known as the "Black Cat Division" for its black cat shoulder patch.

June 14, 1775

The U.S. Army was established on June 14, 1775, when the Continental Army authorized the enlistment of 10 companies of riflemen for one year. George Washington was appointed as the Continental Army's commanding general the following day. June 14, 1775 is also the birthday of the infantry, the oldest branch of the Army.

"Purple Heart Battalion"

The Japanese-American 100th Infantry Battalion, 442d Regimental Combat Team became the most decorated unit in U.S. military history for its size and length of service; the 100th Infantry Battalion earned the nickname "Purple Heart Battalion." Today, the 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Infantry, is the only infantry unit in the Army Reserve.

178

The number of campaigns the Army has taken part in since 1775. The first was Lexington in 1775; most recent campaign is Iraq. Campaigns currently ongoing are Kosovo Defense and Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom. Each campaign is represented by a campaign streamer displayed on the Army flag.



Unidentified Army mine planter of 1942-1943 series. (U. S. Army Signal Corps photo)

A 200-year lieutenant

On Oct. 27, 2000, nearly 200 years after he left the Army, Congress approved legislation promoting Lt. William Clark, co-leader of the Lewis and Clark expedition (Corps of Discovery) to captain, regular Army, backdated to March 26, 1804.

Oct. 11, 1776

The first naval fleet action in U.S. military history was actually carried out by the Army. Brig. Gen. Benedict Arnold led a flotilla of gunboats against a larger British fleet in the Battle of Valcour Island on Lake Champlain. Arnold's force was defeated, but it delayed a British invasion from Canada until the following year.

U.S. Naval Historical Center



Contemporary artwork by C. Randle, depicts the Continental squadron, under Brig. Gen. Benedict Arnold, just before the Battle of Valcour Island. The vessels shown include schooner Royal Savage (center) and (from left to right around Royal Savage): schooner Revenge, galley Washington, gondola Philadelphia, galley Congress, gondola Jersey, galley Lee, gondola Boston (in the middle, largely hidden behind Royal Savage's sails), gondola Spitfire, gondola New Haven, gondola Providence, gondola Connecticut, gondola New York, sloop Enterprise and galley Trumbull.

1976

Martha Hahn, a student at South Dakota State University, became the first female to be commissioned a second lieutenant through the Army Reserve Officer Training Corps on May 7, 1976.

Native Americans in World War I and World War II

While the Navajo Code Talkers have become well known for their service with the Marine Corps in the Pacific Theater in World War II (where they used their native tongue as a form of code for communications). The Army has also employed Native Americans to perform similar roles. In World War I, the Army employed Choc-taws to confuse the Germans during the fighting on the Western Front. In World War II, Comanche Indians assigned to the 4th Signal Company, 4th Infantry Division, played an important role during the division's operations in the Normandy campaign.

Mechanized Army

During World War II, the U.S. Army became the world's first truly mechanized army. Even the mighty German Army, the Wehrmacht, which had introduced the world to blitzkrieg, or "lightning war," and the powerful Red Army still relied heavily on horses and mules for transport.

Aug. 2, 1956

The last Union veteran of the Civil War, Albert Woolson, a drummer boy with the 1st Minnesota Heavy Artillery, died.

Roots of the ROTC

The Reserve Officer Training Corps traces its origins back to the Morrill Act of 1862. Also known as the Land Grant Colleges Act, the law granted land to states to establish colleges, with an emphasis on engineering and agriculture science in their curricula. In addition, the colleges were to include military training for students.



Soldiers from the 14th Engineer Combat Battalion, 8th U.S. Army, ground the M-1 "VLA" barrage balloon, March 22, 1952. The balloon was used to mark the Panmunjon Military Armistice Conference perimeter. The balloon was 35 feet long, 14 feet in diameter, held 3,000 cubic feet of helium gas, and was elevated to a height of 1,200 feet.

West Point - first engineer school

Many of the nation's great engineering and construction projects have been carried out by the Army. The U.S. Military Academy at West Point, established in 1802, was the nation's first engineer school. Among the projects handled by the Army and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers: the U.S. Capitol, the Washington Monument, the Panama Canal, the Pentagon, and the infrastructure for the Manhattan Project. Today, the Corps of Engineers maintains much of the nation's waterways and flood control projects.

Army engineers in Korea combined mortar shells and gasoline to produce a new anti-personnel mine and night illumination technique, May 12, 1951. An 81-mm mortar shell was tied to the top of a 55-gal drum of gasoline and ignited by an electrical charge.





No. 2 Gun Crew, Btry. D, 208th CA AA, man their 3-inch AA gun at New Fighter Strip, Dobodura, New Guinea, May 17, 1943. (U.S. Signal Corps photo)

Patton in the Olympics

Legendary Army Gen. George S. Patton took part in the 1912 Olympics in Stockholm, Sweden, as a competitor in the modern pentathlon. He did not medal in the event.

Oct. 25, 1940

The Army's first African-American general officer, Benjamin O. Davis Sr., was promoted to the rank of brigadier general.

Child hero

The youngest Soldier to earn the Medal of Honor was William "Willie" Johnston, a drummer with the 3rd Vermont Infantry during the Civil War. Johnston was just shy of his 11th birthday when he earned his Medal of Honor.

Soldier and Noble laureate

Retired Gen. George C. Marshall was awarded the Noble Peace Prize on Dec. 10, 1953, for his efforts to bring about the economic recovery of Europe in the wake of World War II. Marshall, who was serving as President Harry S. Truman's secretary of state in the late 1940s, was the first professional Soldier to win the award.

Oct. 6, 1955

First man in Nurse Corps

Although the Army Nurse Corps was established in 1902, the first male to be commissioned through the Corps, Edward L.T. Lyon, did not occur until 53 years later.



With colors flying and guidons down, the lead troops of the famous 9th Cavalry pass in review at the regiment's new home in rebuilt Camp Funston, Fort Riley, Kan., May 28, 1941.

1870

National Weather Bureau

Congress established the National Weather Bureau and gave the U.S. Army Signal Corps responsibility for running it. The Signal Corps operated the bureau until 1890, when it was transferred to the Department of Agriculture.



A UH-1D helicopter prepares for a resupply mission for Company B, 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry, 4th Infantry Division, during Operation "MacArthur," conducted 20 miles southwest of Dak To, Vietnam, Dec. 10-16, 1967.

12,000 miles

The Army Corps of Engineers maintains more than 12,000 miles of commercially navigable channels across the United States.

23

The number of presidents who have served in the Army or Army National Guard (including state militias). Nineteen served in a time of war, two achieved five-star rank, and one earned the Medal of Honor (Teddy Roosevelt).

Army's first nuclear reactor

The Army activated its first nuclear reactor at Fort Belvoir, Va., in 1957. The reactor, operated by the Army Corps of Engineers, was used to train Army technicians, but it was also the first reactor to power an electrical grid in the United States.



Cpl. John Ferrari, 4th Signal Service Co., works on a telephone connection box on Fort Jay, N.Y., March 1941. (U.S. Signal Corps photo)

Soldier elected president

Major Gen. Zachary Taylor was elected president in November 1848 and was the only serving regular Army officer to be elected president.



Three members of an American patrol cross a Luxembourg field on a scouting mission, Dec. 30, 1944. White bed sheets camouflage them in the snow. Left to right: Sgt. James Storey, Newman, Ga.; Pvt. Frank A. Fox, Wilmington, Del.; and Cpl. Dennis Lavanoha, Harrisville, N.Y. (U.S. Army Signal Corps photo)

Soldiers as park rangers

The first national parks were administered by the Army; today's park ranger uniforms trace their origins to the Army's role in administering the parks.

Dec. 1, 1956

The Army's last mule unit was inactivated.

Army aircraft

When the Army purchased its first aircraft in 1908, it went to the Signal Corps.

Pigeons in service

Although the Army started using radios to communicate in World War I, the U.S. Army Pigeon Service—part of the Signal Corps—was not disbanded until 1957. The Army's last carrier pigeons were sold or donated to zoos.

Woman Medal of Honor recipient

Only one woman, Dr. Mary Walker, a civilian contract surgeon serving with the Union Army in the Civil War, has been awarded the Medal of Honor. Her medal was rescinded, along with 910 others as a result of an Army-wide review in 1917, but was reinstated by President Jimmy Carter in 1977.



A Soldier directs the landing of a UH-1V Iroquois ("Huey") helicopter ambulance during a mass casualty training exercise at Thadj in the Eastern Province of Saudi Arabia, Nov. 29, 1990.


1869

The last veteran of the American Revolution, Daniel Bakeman, died in 1869 at the age of 109.



The U.S. Army Pigeon Service, part of the Signal Corps, was disbanded in 1957

Historical facts provided by the U.S. Army Center of Military History.



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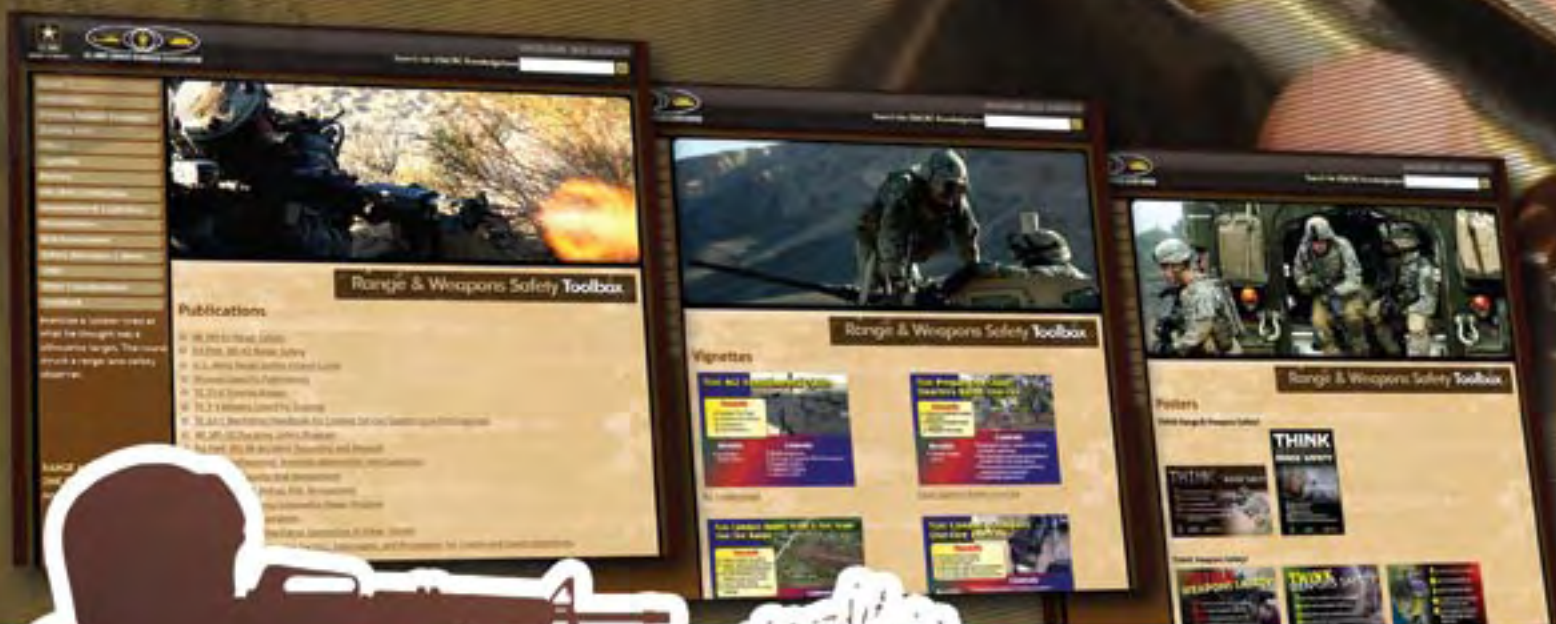
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